

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA'S CAMPUS MEDIA SOURCE

# THE gateway

August 17th, 2015 ■ Issue No. 4 ■ Volume 106

GTWY.CA

## YEG COMICS:

*THE*

## STRUGGLE

## FOR

## RECOGNITION



THE gateway  
visit us at GTWY.CA

Monday, August 17, 2015  
Volume 106 Issue No. 4

Published since November 21, 1910  
Circulation 8,000  
ISSN 0845-356X

Suite 3-04  
Students' Union Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2J7  
**Telephone** 780.492.5168  
**Fax** 780.492.6665  
**Ad Inquiries** 780.492.6700  
**Email** gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorial staff

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** Cam Lewis  
eic@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.5168

**MANAGING EDITOR** Kieran Chrysler  
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6654

**ONLINE EDITOR** Kevin Schenk  
online@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652

**NEWS EDITOR** Richard Catangay-Liew  
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7308

**OPINION EDITOR** Josh Greschner  
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6661

**ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR** Jon Zilinski  
arts@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7052

**SPORTS EDITOR** Zach Borutski  
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652

**MULTIMEDIA EDITOR** Oumar Salifou  
multimedia@gateway.ualberta.ca

**PHOTO EDITOR** Christina Varvis  
photo@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6648

**DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR** Adaire Beatty  
production@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6663

business staff

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** Beth Mansell  
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6700

**WEBMASTER** Alex Shevchenko  
webmaster@gateway.ualberta.ca

**CIRCULATION PALS**  
Send Applications To:  
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca



The Gateway is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization, operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

The Gateway is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

complaints

Comments, concerns or complaints about The Gateway's content or operations should be first sent to the Editor-in-Chief at the address above. If the Editor-in-Chief is unable to resolve a complaint, it may be taken to the Gateway Student Journalism Society's Board of Directors; beyond that, appeal is to the non-partisan Society OmbudsBoard. The chairs of the Board of Directors and the OmbudsBoard can be reached at the address above.

copyright

All materials appearing in The Gateway bear copyright of their creator(s) and may not be used without written consent.

disclaimers

Opinions expressed in the pages of The Gateway are expressly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Gateway or the Gateway Student Journalism Society.

Additionally, the opinions expressed in advertisements appearing in The Gateway are those of the advertisers and not The Gateway nor the Gateway Student Journalism Society unless explicitly stated.

The Gateway periodically adjusts its circulation between 7,000 to 10,000 printed copies based on market fluctuations and other determining factors.

colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers and HP Scanjet flatbed scanners. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Fairplex, Utopia, Proxima Nova Extra Condensed, and Tisa. The Manitoban is The Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's game of choice are attack ads.

contributors

Randy Savoie, Cole Forster, Daniel Rodrigues, Michael Vecchio, Nathan Fung, James Davison

haiku

Me and my hat, lol  
Sienna broke up with me  
OK computer



PHOTO OF THE WEEK Let me take you to the Candy Shop.

CHRISTINA VARVIS

# streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Stephen Harper + Conservatives

As you may have heard, the Federal Election is underway.

WE ASKED...

## What do you think of Justin Trudeau?

**White woman** SCIENCE IV

"Justin? As Prime Minister? In this economy? That has me worried."

**Old white guy** FINE ART III

He's going to ruin everything goddamit."

**Old white woman** FINE ART III

I hear he wants to legalize marijuana and cocaine and all other types of drugs. I think he's going to be a bad influence on our youth."

**Token minority** SCIENCE IV

"Nice hair though!"

# gateway

DIVERSIONS

VOLUNTEER MEETINGS AT 3-04 SUB EVERY FRIDAY AT 1PM



# News

**News Editor**  
Richard Catangay-Liew

**Email**  
news@gateway.ualberta.ca

**Phone**  
780.492.7308

**Twitter**  
@RichardCLiew

**Volunteer**  
News meetings every Monday at 3pm in SUB 3-04

## Energy drinks dangerous when consumed to excess

**Richard Catangay-Liew**  
NEWS EDITOR • @RICHARDCLIEW

Slopestyle mountain bikers effortlessly flying through the air, skiers back-flipping spans of impossible height, and bikini-clad women holding blue and chrome checked cans aren't the only reality of energy drinks these days: serious illness and death may be lurking inside the cans that claim to give us wings.

Sugar laden energy drinks are a staple in convenience store coolers across university campuses, and it isn't uncommon to see at least a few students accompanied by the loud, colorful cans in the library. Often chosen as an alternative to coffee, the sweet, crisp beverages students turn to when their eyelids start to get heavy contain more than 10 per cent of our daily-recommended intake of sugar, and almost no additional nutritional value — something experts say can be a cause for concern.

"They're empty calories, in terms of there's not a lot of other nutrients that are being provided with those calories," Adele Gagnon, Registered Dietician and Nutrition Research Coordinator with the Clinical Research Unit at the University of Alberta, said.

The content of sugar in many energy drinks is comparable to that of soft drinks such as Coca-Cola or Pepsi, she added.

Lena Lupari, a 26-year-old mother-of-three made British headlines over the summer after losing her vision which she says is due to consuming an obscene amount of Red Bull. Lupari was drinking, on average, 28 cans daily, which provided her with about 3,000 calories, all



EXTRA ENERGY? Red Bull might give you that extra boost, but at what cost?

RANDY SAVOIE

from added sugar. At the time of her hospital visit, Lupari weighed about 360 pounds. The cause for her blindness was determined to be Idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH), a condition in which pressure inside the skull exceeds normal levels. This pressure threatens (amongst

other things) the optic nerve, which relays information from the eyes to the brain. IIH is commonly found in women of Lupari's age who are obese.

Though Lupari's case is something of an extreme, and can be attributed to poor lifestyle choices,

sugar is not the only potentially dangerous ingredient of energy drinks. Caffeine, the psychoactive stimulant that is responsible for the temporary wakefulness felt from energy drinks, has been linked to, though not proven responsible for, lethal conditions.

Around the same time as Lupari was feeling the effects of a swollen brain, a trial in the 2011 death of American 14-year-old Alais Fournier was beginning, this time linked to Monster Energy. Fournier had reportedly consumed two 710 mL cans of the beverage, and subsequently died of "acute caffeine toxicity," something Monster is contesting. It has been reported that Fournier suffered from a heart condition as well.

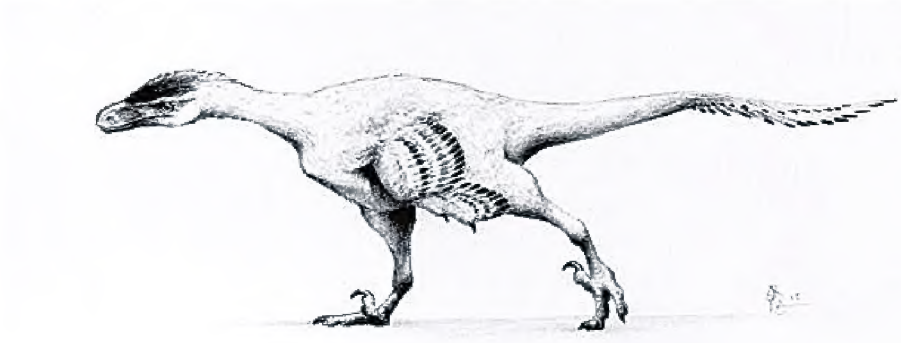
This isn't the first time an energy drink has been named relation to the death or illness of an individual. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the United States keeps a database of incidents potentially related to the consumption of caffeinated energy drinks. Caffeinated energy drinks have been implicated in 17 deaths, and 74 other serious conditions according to the database.

All of these incidents aside, the consumption of caffeinated energy drinks is not something to necessarily be afraid of, but mindfulness and moderation can play a key role in staying healthy.

Heidi Bates, Registered Dietitian and the Director of the University of Alberta Integrated Dietetic Internship, who has instructed at the U of A for nearly 15 years, said that if you find yourself taking in more and more energy drinks on a consistent basis, perhaps some lifestyle "renovation" is needed.

"Take some time and look at how you might organize things differently," Bates said. "[Energy drinks] are not designed to be a replacement for basic, good, healthy living, which would include healthy eating, physical activity, and adequate amounts of sleep."

## Spanish dino teeth discovery leads to big breakthrough



**DINO DISCOVERY** A new discovery in Spain has quadrupled the diversity in the southern Pyrenees.

SUPPLIED

**Mitch Sorensen**  
STAFF REPORTER • @SONOFAMITCHH

Ever since she was four, Angelica Torices knew that she wanted to study dinosaurs.

But rather than the six metre-long fossils typically associated with her profession, Torices specializes in something significantly smaller. Torices and her team discovered 142 teeth in the Southern Pyrenees region of Spain. Further investigation of the teeth, which ranged from 1.5 to 61 millimeters, revealed that the diversity of carnivorous theropod dinosaurs in the region was much higher than previously thought.

"This gives you a completely new vision of the area," Torices said. "You go from envisioning an area with

two predators to an area with eight, from the size of a chicken to the size of an Albertosaurus."

■ **"This is a culmination of many years of study. It is where I began my research career, so it holds a special spot in my heart for me."**

ANGELICA TORICES  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA DINOSAUR RESEARCHER

Since teeth are covered in enamel, which is extremely hard and preserves very well, Torices said they often contain a wealth of information for such a small find.

"We can take any number of mea-

surements, from length to circumference, to studying the small serrations on the teeth," Torices said. "All these measurements allow us to classify these teeth (to their species)."

As the southern Pyrenees run along the sea, Torices noted this environment is typically biased against full-skeleton preservation. When examined in tandem with other bone beds in the region, Torices said this find has even more significance.

"Seeing which teeth are older than others is important in understanding what happened at the end of the Cretaceous," Torices said. "From these finds, we see that there was no decrease in diversity until the end of this era, so we can deduce that something really dramatic hap-

pened to these dinosaurs."

Torices said she's excited to see her research come to the spotlight, having been involved with this project since its inception in 2007.

■ **"These teeth can give real information in areas where there isn't much material."**

ANGELICA TORICES  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA DINOSAUR RESEARCHER

"This is a culmination of many years of study. It is where I began my research career, so it holds a special spot in my heart for me," she said.

Torices added that she's looking

forward to future studies in Spain, as paleontological teams have been digging there for significantly less time than in areas like Dinosaur Provincial Park in Alberta.

She and her team wrote an article on this topic, which appeared in the August issue of Acta Palaeontologica Polonica, a prestigious paleontological journal. With continued co-operation between U of A researchers and her colleagues Jose Ignacio Canudo and Xavier Pereda-Superbiola of Spain, she anticipates many discoveries in the future.

"We now know that these methods are really useful," Torices said. "These teeth can give real information in areas where there isn't much material."



# U of A conservation biologist on Cecil, trophy hunting

Jamie Sarkonak

STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGONAK

The subject of trophy hunting has been a hot topic since July 1 — the day Cecil the lion was shot and killed.

According to University of Alberta ecology professor Andrew Derocher, there are two approaches to thinking about trophy hunting: biological and ethical.

Cecil was a well-known lion of Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe that had been part of an Oxford study. Though Cecil lived in a protected area, he was lured out by a team hired by an American dentist so he could shoot him with a bow. The public uproar that ensued pushed the dentist into hiding.

While petitions with over one million signatures call for Zimbabwe to end trophy hunting and to have those involved in the Cecil's hunting punished, lions continue to face their greatest, largely unpublicized threat: habitat loss.

"If you look at the range of the African lion now compared to 100 years ago, it's (microscopic)," Derocher said. "Clearing land, desertification and increased human population all contribute to the problem."

Trophy hunting, the practice of taking big, trophy-quality animals from populations, is not as big of a threat in comparison, according to Derocher. Biologically, whether the animal was hunted for sport or for food doesn't matter; it is just an animal with supposedly good genes that is now dead. The biggest biological effect of Cecil's



POLAR EXPRESS U of A biologist Andrew Derocher examines polar bears in the arctic.

RANDY SAVOIE

death is likely that of pride social structure, and the lives of the cubs in his pride.

"When you take out a dominant individual that's holding a pride of females and is the sire of those cubs ... very often another groups of males will come in ... and kill all the cubs to reset the females'

reproductive cycles," Derocher said.

Populations that endure trophy hunting may eventually have fewer genes that allow animals to become big and dominant, since those individuals are removed before they are able to make a significant contribution to their gene pool. The long term result could be an

increase of weaker offspring. We see such concerns in Canadian bighorn sheep populations, Derocher said.

Ethically, trophy hunting comes down to moral and legal questions.

The shooting of Cecil was legally vague, which is where the problem lies, Derocher said. But if regulated, African trophy hunts could bring

economic stimulation to local economies and benefit the locals, similar to Arctic trophy hunts in the Canadian north.

In Canada, about 50 polar bears are taken annually by trophy hunters. These hunts bring in revenue to areas of high unemployment and cost of living. With these hunts, licenses and tags are limited according to what government biologists determine as sustainable.

**"In reality, if this animal hadn't been a part of a big study he would've been just another dead lion."**

ANDREW DEROCHER  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ECOLOGY PROFESSOR

Though this hunt entered the global spotlight, many further-reaching conservation issues remain in the dark, such as the poaching of lesser-known species and habitat loss.

"In reality, if this animal hadn't been part of a big study ... he would have just been another dead lion," Derocher said. "And for every dead lion, there's another dead tiger. There's a dead leopard. A dead grizzly bear."

"It all comes down to one issue, and that there are too many people on this earth," he said.

"And you can put the root issue of habitat loss, of climate change, a lot of the strife in the world, is because people are starting to fight for limited resources."

## campus crimebeat — Summer edition

COMPILED BY Richard Liew

### DERPIN' FOR TURPIN

To speak with the University of Alberta President, students, faculty and staff are required to book with their secretary or communications advisor. One man in Quad on July 29 apparently didn't get the memo.

University of Alberta Protective Services (UAPS) were alerted of a drunken male in Quad shouting, "I need to see the president! I need to speak with the president!"

Officers responded and located the intoxicated suspect who smelled like liquor in the east entrance of SUB at 2:22 p.m. After questioning, the male said he was upset about the landscaping on campus, hence why he wanted a quarrel with U of A President David Turpin.

He was not granted his request and was instead directed off campus with a summons for trespassing, as he was not affiliated with the U of A.

### WHEELCHAIR WHACKER

Officers arrested a female outside Earls Campus after they witnessed her assault a female in a wheelchair.

The women, who UAPS described as a possible panhandler, approached a female in a wheelchair in front of the Timms Centre. After yelling incoherently, the suspect "whacked" the female above the head with a cuffed hand. UAPS observed the suspect in the act and arrested her for assault and turned her over to Edmonton Police Services (EPS). After "causing a ruckus," while being detained, EPS took the suspect off campus.

A natural human instinct would be to defend yourself or fight back,



CHRISTINA VARVIS

but UAPS Acting Inspector Greg Turner advised students to notify authorities should they find themselves in this situation.

"The first things should be to report the matter to us," Turner said. "We certainly don't condone any type of assault from anyone to anyone, and we will take the appropriate actions to deal with the matter."

### SMASHED ON SANITIZER

A male with four outstanding criminal break & enter warrants was arrested after engaging with

officers in a foot pursuit while he was biking near the Katz Building.

The male was charged with failing to stop for an officer and trespassing on U of A property. After he was intercepted and detained by officers in the area, the male was found to have stolen the bike and was in possession of a meth pipe. He also smelled like hand sanitizer, and it was determined by officers that he used the alcohol-based to become intoxicated. The male was found to have four outstanding break & enter warrants and was

charged with failing to stop. He was subsequently turned over to EPS and taken off campus.

### WHAT'S THAT FUNKY SMELL?

The Biological Sciences building was evacuated after the fire alarm was triggered due to a "foul odour," on the morning of Aug. 17. UAPS and university officials then informed students and staff to avoid Saskatchewan Drive between 111 and 116 street to allow officers and Edmonton Fire Rescue Services to investigate the cause of the alarm.

The building was cleared for re-entry at 10:12 a.m. after it was determined that the odour was coming from a dry "p trap" drain which allowed the rancid odour to travel back up.

While the cause of the alarm drew "no concern" from UAPS and EFRS, the total evacuation and shut down of the BioSci building was necessary, Turner said. He also advised anyone to alert UAPS (780-492-5050) or 911 if they detect any suspicious odours so officials can take the necessary precautions.



# Student-developed grade app wins provincial honours

**Jamie Sarkonak**  
STAFF REPORTER • @SWAGONAK

Students curious about how their high school's math program compares to others in the city can now do so on their smartphone.

"Make the Grade" is an app that uses provincial data to answer such questions. Created by Edmonton-based Dark Horse Analytics, the app won Best Overall Application (prized at \$30,000) and Best Made in Alberta Application (prized at \$30,000) in the Government of Alberta's Apps for Alberta contest.

The app is designed to compare the diploma results of Albertan schools to the provincial average and each other. Users can also filter by location, subject, and school type. With the release of the app on a blog post, Dark Horse Analytics acknowledged test results don't necessarily indicate which schools are the best — there are many factors that can influence overall diploma performance. "Make the Grade" visualizes one of many attributes parents and students take into account when choosing which school they believe to best fit their needs.

"It's a tool for people to explore and find their own answers as opposed to a simple analysis that tells people what is the right answer," Daniel Haight, Dark Horse Analytics co-founder and graduate of the

Alberta School of Business, said.

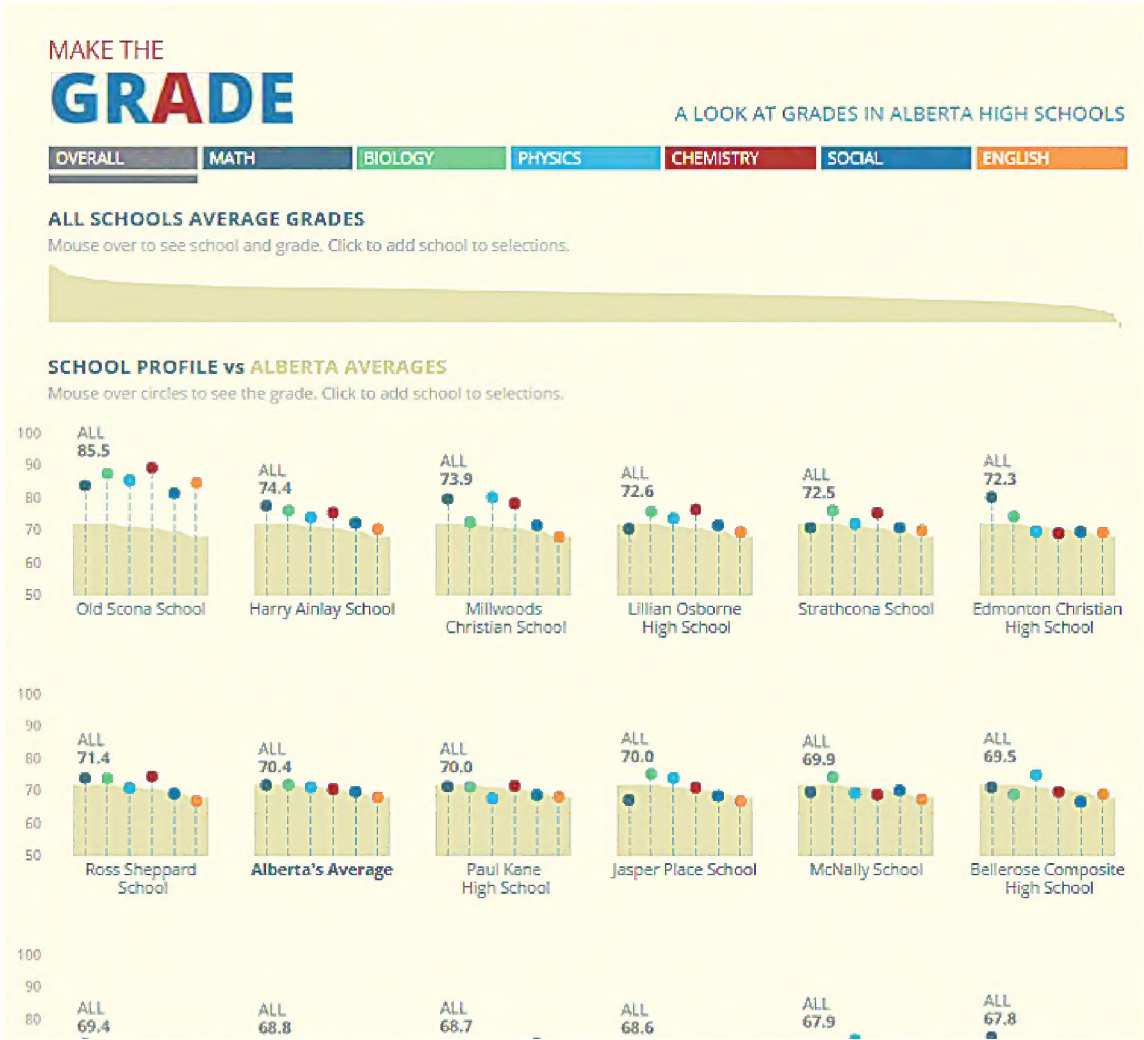
The development team was composed mainly of U of A graduates, as well as University of Alberta student intern Devon Sigurdson.

The competition was launched to entice developers to use provincial data from the Alberta Open Government portal. The portal was created to help the public access government data, but raw data can still be difficult for non-statisticians to digest. The apps created in the contest make statistical information easier for the general public to understand by visually organizing chosen datasets.

"I think this is part of a trend we're seeing ... where (the government is) opening up data sets, and so we have 2000 data sets available, but they're still fairly inaccessible to people," Haight said. "I love that Alberta has decided to fund the development of tools that allow you to do more than just download a giant text file full of data ... because now it's accessible to a much wider scope of people (rather) than just a few hardcore geeks who love to download spreadsheets."

Having won \$60,000 in prize money, Haight said the Dark Horse Analytics team is planning to celebrate their work by going out for a couple expensive dinners.

Web users can find "Make the Grade" at [grades.dha.io](http://grades.dha.io).



MAKING THE GRADE Screenshot of Dark Horse Analytics app, "Making the Grade."

SUPPLIED — SCREENSHOT



GOSS GONE BoG Chair will be vacant, staring Sept. 1, 2015.

CHRISTINA VARVIS

## BoG Chair Doug Goss steps down

*Goss resigns amidst intense scrutiny after comments made during 2015 AB election*

**Richard Catangay-Liew**  
NEWS EDITOR • @RICHARDCLEW

Doug Goss will be stepping down as Chair of the University of Alberta Board of Governors, effective August 31.

Goss, who was named BoG chair in February 2012, said he will be resigning to "refocus my energies" as a volunteer for the U of A.

**"I am extremely proud of the progress that has been made under President (Indira) Samarasekera's Dare to Discover Plan."**

DOUG GOSS  
CHAIR, BOARD OF GOVERNORS

"As a proud Albertan, and a proud U of A alumnus, my passion for this university and province is unwavering," Goss said in an official statement. "I am extremely proud of the

progress that has been made under President (Indira) Samarasekera's Dare to Discover strategic plan."

After serving two years as BoG chair, Goss was reappointed by the board in October 2014.

Goss recently came under scrutiny after he and four other CEOs, who were all PC party donors, held a press conference urging Albertans to not vote for the NDP. The university decided to keep Goss as BoG chair, despite members of the campus community calling for his resignation.

Despite his anti-NDP stance in the last provincial election, Alberta Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education Lori Sigurdson thanked Goss in a statement issued by the U of A.

University of Alberta President David Turpin added that Goss has made "outstanding contributions" to the university.

"I thank him for his efforts on behalf of the U of A to date," Turpin said. "(I) look forward to working

with him as he focuses his U of A volunteer activities in a new direction."

**"As a proud Albertan, and a proud U of A alumnus, my passion for this university and province is unwavering."**

DOUG GOSS  
CHAIR, BOARD OF GOVERNORS

At the last Board of Governors meeting in July, the BoG approved the recruitment process for the U of A's next board chair. The Chair is to be appointed by the Alberta Lieutenant Governor, and the position will be advertised and screened. They are to be appointed for a three-year term and are eligible for reappointment at the end of their first term.

Goss was not present at the July meeting.

## Tuition increases reversed

**Richard Catangay-Liew**  
NEWS EDITOR • @RICHARDCLEW

Domestic students won't be affected by tuition increases this fall, but international students will still see those rising costs.

The University of Alberta Board of Governors officially rescinded the previously approved 2015-16 domestic tuition and fee increases on Wednesday, though international students will still be impacted by those increases.

**"I think it's important to keep in mind fairness to students ... If the government and admin think it's OK to do this, then we clearly need to make changes."**

DOUG GOSS  
CHAIR, BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The tuition and fee reversals comply with the Alberta NDP government's Bill 3 and funding plan for post-secondary, which legislated a two-year tuition freeze and rollback on the Tories' previously approved market modifier program increases. To offset the rollbacks, Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education Lori Sigurdson announced an increase in base operating funding for post-secondary institutions by two per cent for 2015-16 and 2016-17, while reversing the 1.4 per cent that was cut to the Campus Alberta grant earlier this March.

The U of A approved a general tuition fee increase of 2.2 per cent in December 2014, and with the rollback, the government provided funding to compensate for the revenue that would have been generated from domestic students with the increase. Because the government did not provide any funding for the loss in generated revenue for international student tuition increases, those increases will remain.

U of A programs that will see

their previously approved market modifiers rescinded for domestic students are the Faculty of Law's Juris Doctor program (an increase of \$5,774 in 2015-16), the new Doctor of Pharmacy program (an increase of \$1,400 in 2017-18), the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine's Physical Therapy program (an increase \$46.32 per 3 credit course in 2015-16), the Masters of Business Administration program (\$605 per 3 credit course) and the Department of Economics (\$150 per 3 credit course).

Market modifier increases for international students, which were previously approved, will remain, effective Sept. 1, 2015. International students in the JD program will see an increase of \$12,263.45 in 2015-16. International students in economics will see a \$553.82 bump per 3 credit course while those in physical therapy will see a \$94.68 increase per 3 credit course. Details of the MBA program increase for international students was not available.

Students' Union President Navneet Khinda, who voted in opposition of the motion regarding international tuition and fees, said she had "mixed feelings" about today's meeting.

"This was positive in a sense that we rolled back the tuition and market modifier increases ... on the other hand, it's tempered with the fact that international students will still be seeing those increases," Khinda said following the meeting.

She said the SU's short-term objective regarding these increases would be to ensure that adequate support in terms of bursaries and grants are available to international students. Long-term, she said the SU will further review the post-secondary sector's funding formula, as they "clearly show loopholes" in tuition and fee regulation.

"I think it's important to keep in mind fairness to students," Khinda said. "If the government and administration think it's OK to do this, then we clearly need to make changes."



# Opinion

**Opinion Editor**  
Josh Greschner

**Email**  
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca

**Phone**  
780.492.6661

**Twitter**  
@joshgreschner

**Volunteer**  
Please contact via email!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

## People who vote for a party with bad attack ads aren't necessarily stupid

CANADIANS HAVE BEEN INCESSANTLY BOMBARDED BY Conservative party ads attacking both Justin Trudeau and Thomas Mulcair, and we're just three weeks into the campaign period.

These ads seem to appeal to the lowest rung of unintelligent and uninformed voters. And it's for that reason that some think negative attack ads will continue. Nevertheless, attack ads seem to have worked astonishingly well for Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his parliament.

A new poll by Ipsos indicates that recent party support hasn't wavered, with Trudeau's Liberals gaining two percentage points (up to 28 per cent) in support throughout July, but still trailing Harper's Conservatives (31 per cent) and Mulcair's NDP (33 per cent). Nine per cent of respondents to the poll remain undecided.

Some think it's time to reconceptualize the strategy that focus group driven, tasteless and condescending cheap shots are, unarguably, effective campaign strategies. In other words, it's time to rethink the way the government spends taxpayer money.

The 2011 election cost \$291 million over 38 days. Elections Canada estimated that a 2015 campaign would cost approximately \$375 million over a standard 37-day campaign period. With Harper announcing the 78-day campaign period for the 2015 election, it's fair to assume that the cost will inevitably increase by tens of millions of dollars.

And even if you support the idea of a taxpayer-funded campaign, that's the finished product? If you're going to spend that much money polluting the airwaves with attack ads, at least hire C-list actors to replace the duds awkwardly scrutinizing Trudeau's and Mulcair's resume around a water cooler. The Conservative ads released this year are blatantly and laughably the result of some focus group. It's as if they said "OK, we need a wise old white guy, a non-white minority of some sort so we look diverse, and a female, and BOOM! We've covered the voting landscape." Throw in a jab at Trudeau's good hair and they've covered all of their bases.

Naturally, humans pay more attention to negative information and deem it more memorable. That's why attack ads seem to work. It's also important to remember that the populace isn't particularly concerned about the deterioration of political rhetoric. Clearly, the Conservatives have sunk to a new low. But even slightly more eloquent attempts (and I mean very slight) worded in a positive tone, such as Mulcair's plea for #Fairness or Trudeau's script reads are easily forgotten. Positive ads might work, but negative ads seem to work a lot better.

Does this suggest a flaw in our political system? Or are the voters the ones who are flawed?

The easy judgement would be to claim the stupidity of the populace. While some (especially some university professors) will complain in rhetorical flourishes and articulate elocutions about the deterioration of the modern mind since the days when Abe Lincoln debated in every city on the Eastern seaboard, the fact is that Canadians have never been more educated. Canadians are tuned in, discussing the issues, and given the vast amount of online journalism and alternative commentary buzzing through people's social media feeds, Canadians aren't simply absorbing what's on the evening news either.

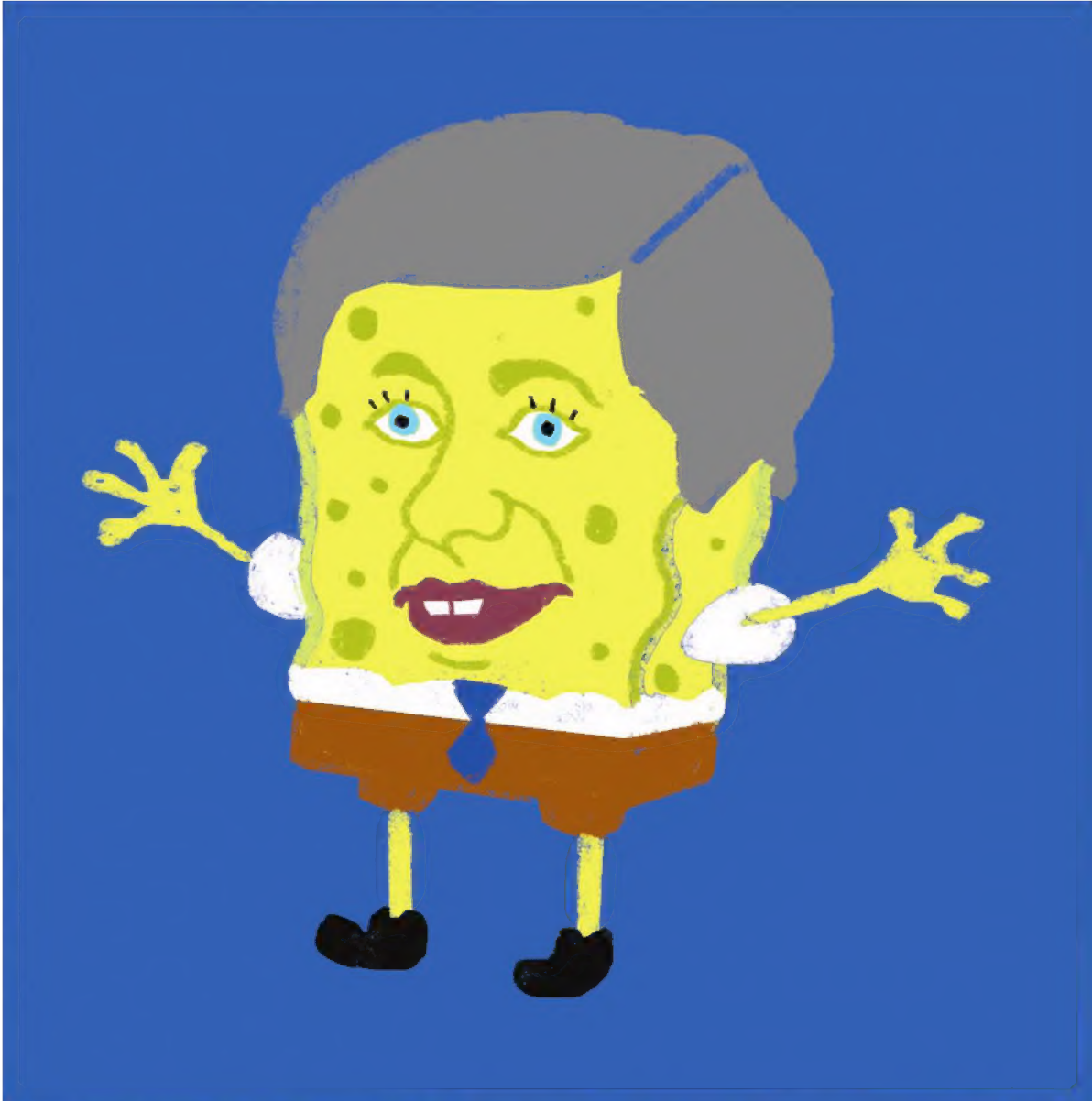
The fact is that it's very difficult to simply generalize the reasons why people vote for a party whose primary means of promotion are attack ads, no matter how absurd the attack ads might be. It's true that by the standards of any democracy, nine years is getting to be a pretty long time and in need of a change for its own sake.

But the Conservative government and their cabinet basically full of economic strategists have prevented the country from nose-diving as the rest of the world plummeted. What many voters wanting Harper out forget is that a nation's stability is largely economic. Clearly Harper isn't concerned with an ethics beyond his own insecurity about Canada's place within global terrorism, and he often goes on to blatantly defy the principles that guide the political philosophy that undergirds his party by vocally supporting bills that give immigrants a hard time.

It takes quite the idealist to deny the importance of the national economy for every single citizen and for that matter, everyone seeking citizenship. For many people, economic strategy could simply be the reason. And given both Trudeau's and Mulcair's sketchy platforms regarding economic policy, one could say that they truly are "just not ready."

It's safe to say that almost everyone agrees that the ads are of an abominably low quality and that the sheer amount spent on them is ridiculous. But the populace has repeatedly given its confidence to a party that could care less.

The Gateway Staff



I'M READY! Stephen Harper wants nothing more than for the election to start. Aye Aye Captain! ADAIRE BEATTY

## letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

**Lack of sufficient paperwork could pose risk for Uber drivers**  
(Re: "Edmonton needs Uber, the city can make an easy transition" by Kevin Schenk, July 5, 2015)

**RISKS FOR UBER PASSENGERS:**

While the risks associated with being an Uber driver are great, risks for passengers are greater. First of all, you may be getting into a vehicle that is not insured properly, which could leave you with the burden of going after the driver in court to reclaim legal and medical costs. If an insurer voids an auto policy or denies a claim due to material misrepresentation, then the vehicle owner and driver would be personally liable for damages they cause in an accident including property damage and bodily injury. Additionally, to sue for injuries in Ontario, you must meet a certain threshold of injury before you can do so.

The next – and greatest – risk is that the background checks that Uber drivers are put through are spotty at best. A taxi driver must have a clean criminal and driving record to maintain their taxi license. According to a NBC news report, Uber used drivers in the San Francisco area who had various criminal charges on their records including domestic assault, drug trafficking and burglary. While the service states that it runs background checks, these weren't enough to catch the records uncovered by NBC's investigative report.

If you are a driver that has been using the service, contact your broker to get the proper insurance policy for your vehicle use, as well as your local municipal licensing office to inquire about a taxi license to protect yourself and your passengers. If you are an Uber passenger, ask to see proof that your driver holds both a taxi license and the proper insurance before your ride begins. Or do the smart thing and just get a taxi – a little extra wait for a taxi isn't worth the potential hassle.

**RISKS FOR UBER DRIVERS:**

The biggest risk for drivers is that your auto insurance does not cover using your vehicle to carry passengers. This means that if you get in an accident while transporting a passenger, you could face serious liability and vehicle replacement costs. If you want to be an Uber driver, you have to add the Permission to Carry Paying Passengers endorsement to your insurance, and this can be costly.

Additionally, if you are using the vehicle to carry paying passengers, and don't have the requisite municipal license, the endorsement will not be enough to get you out of hot water with the law as you are operating as a taxi in contravention of local bylaws. Cities such as Ottawa and Toronto are cracking down on Uber drivers, in some cases having bylaw officers book rides on the app and hand out fines to drivers who don't have taxi licenses.

The worst case scenario for an Uber driver is that the vehicle policy is invalidated by undisclosed use to carry passengers, leaving you without auto insurance, making you liable for any legal or medical costs and making it harder – and more expensive –

for you to get auto insurance in the future.

If you do choose to register your vehicle as a taxi, it must be properly licensed and insured commercially as a taxi – the Permission to Carry Paying Passengers endorsement is not enough. Uber doesn't want to pay Taxes in Alberta. 100% UberX drivers are committing Insurance & GST FRAUD. Why don't Uber drivers get commercial insurance, pay GST and get city licenses like taxi drivers to have an equal abc safe playing field? You have cheat on your personal insurance company to drive Uber, how safe it is?

**Dave**  
VIA WEB

Hey anti Uber robo-posters paid for by the taxi companies! You suck!

**Kyle MacDonald**  
VIA WEB

Letters to the editor should be sent to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca) (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.



# Freedom of speech means the freedom to refuse voting

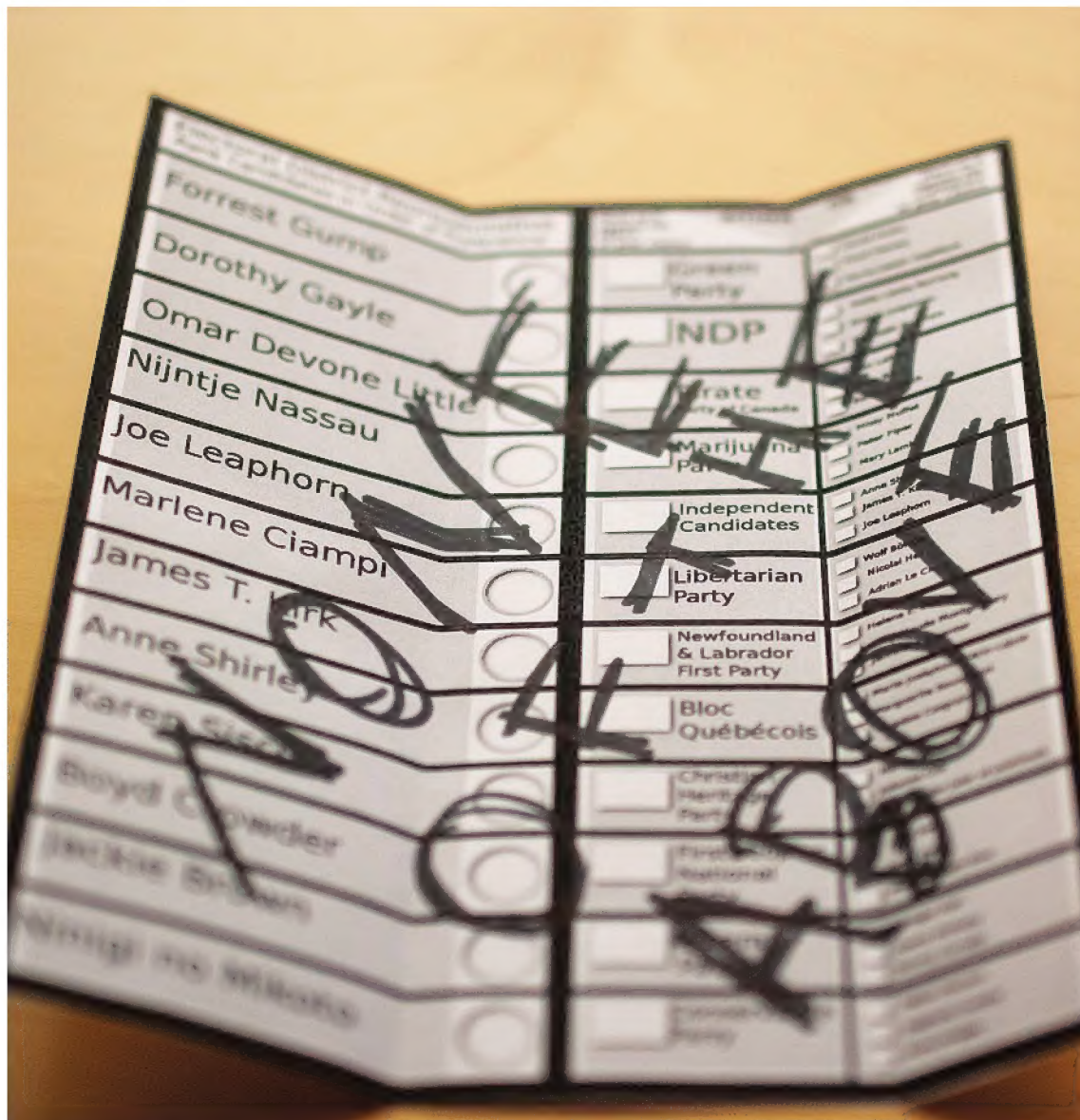


**Cole Forster**  
OPINION WRITER

There is an old anarchist slogan that says, almost self-righteously, “if voting changed anything they would make it illegal.”

I’m not nearly so cynical as to be convinced by such a statement, but I share something in common with those who conscientiously abstain from voting. I regard the most elementary of democratic actions as fundamentally optional. With the fall elections near at hand, we are on the precipice of a barrage of being told, primarily via re-posted social media bulletins, that we ought to do the damn thing on October 19th and cast votes in the federal election.

The most irritating of the arguments brought forth to shame people for not voting is the old ditty about our veterans sacrificing so that we could be secure in our democratic freedoms. They died so that we could vote. Has a more fatuous remark ever been made? To be sure, our war dead lie in their graves for a whole host of reasons, surely therein the protection of our democracy, but the right to vote also gives protection to a corollary, the right to abstain. The right to withhold one’s political voice in that way, or more dramatic yet, to destroy one’s ballot in the polling booth, which is a democratic action in itself, and one that deserves to be defended not only legally, but in the court of public opinion.



PHOTOGRAPH BY NAME

Being reminded in a parental tone to vote is annoying, but occasionally the sentiment is elevated from a mere annoyance to a knife

in the gut of basic human rights. Australia is the case with which most will be familiar in terms of a state compelling its citizens to

vote. The penalty for not making your way down to the polling station down under is twenty Australian dollars, which could buy you

a few jars of Vegemite or a DVD of Crocodile Dundee, or whatever you buy in Australia. While the intentions may be benign (increasing political participation), such a base misunderstanding of the division between civil rights and civil duties corresponds to a sinister infringement on the freedom of citizens in a state that requires voting.

Of course it’s true that low voter turnout and apathetic masses are important issues, but it is paramount that we defend ourselves against any policy that compels speech. Freedom of speech also means the freedom to be silent, to not use one’s political voice in that way. Perhaps the self-appointed “stewards” of our democracy are unaware that reminding people to vote doesn’t necessarily lead to more informed voters, just as voter turnout isn’t the only diagnostic tool for gauging the vitality of a democracy. And why do these people continue to reinforce the assumption that investing political authority in a candidate or party by voting is the only way to represent oneself in a democracy? There are people who think it rather paltry to check a box and transfer their political voice to a candidate unsuitable to represent their interests, and for good reasons. If you are politically active at all, chances are you have more influence writing or speaking about policies than you do when you go to the polls.

In October, vote if you feel strongly about it, take a rain check if you don’t, and if you don’t much fancy the current system then doodle something neat and spoil your ballot.

## Federal-provincial relations are strained under Stephen Harper



**Michael Vecchio**  
OPINION STAFF

At the family dinner table of Canadian politics, the provinces are the children, each autonomous and free, but still under the guidance of the parent Ottawa.

At its core Canadian federalism has always been about co-operating with the provincial “kids” to ensure that there is harmony in the home we call Canada. However under Stephen Harper’s Conservative government, the relationship with Canada’s ten provinces has turned from productive discussion and partnership to a relationship of aloofness and frequent division. Under Harper’s leadership, Ottawa has itself seemed like a child leaving our provincial leaders confused and angered at the lack of communication at the ever-important dinner table.

In the nine years since he was first elected, Stephen Harper has met a measly two times with all ten premiers, in November 2008 and January 2009. There have been no other meetings since despite repeated invitations to the PM to attend these necessary gatherings; as recently as July Harper actively ignored and failed to attend the Premiers meeting in Newfoundland. It is clear that Harper wants to be the head of the household but doesn’t want to listen and work with the other inhabitants, signalling a fundamental shift in the once cordial (albeit occasionally heated) kinship the federal government had and should have with its

provincial counterparts. What the PM has done is speak with the Premiers individually (and infrequently) instead of fostering a collective stance to tackle the important issues facing Albertans to Manitobans to Quebecers. This fix-your-own problems and I-don’t-care attitude is both immature and a sign of weak leadership. Our provinces and nation deserve much better than this.

**• In the nine years since he was first elected, Stephen Harper has met a measly two times with all ten premiers.**

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne has been quoted “We need a federal partner and this country needs a federal government that understands that working with the provincial leadership and the provincial government is important.” And now we not only have a PM who is distant, when he does decide to weigh in on provincial affairs he has shown himself to be inflammatory and divisive.

It’s no secret that Harper’s absences and minimal mutual dialogue with the Premiers have left some more than others upset and it further does not help issues when the PM decides to make statements that seem to belittle and antagonize the provincial leaders. Just this past Tuesday while campaigning in Ontario, Harper summed up his rapport with Kathleen Wynne’s Liberal government as “You (the federal government) will have your best relations with the premiers who are doing a good job in their own

jurisdiction. I won’t say more than that.” And if picking on one Premier wasn’t enough, he made comments the next day calling the decision by Alberta’s NDP government to delay its budget “a disaster” (despite his own government delaying its budget earlier this year) and for raising corporate taxes on what he would go on to say would be uniformly rejected by Albertans. Surely the PM has enough enemies as he enters his fifth campaign. Does he really need to add the Premiers to that list?

The concept of Canadian federalism can only be maintained if respectful and meaningful dialogue and cooperation is upheld between the provinces and the federal government. Without respect and willingness to collaborate the system cannot work. During this election campaign there are many issues to consider before heading to the ballot box and one that should not be ignored is the state of federal-provincial relations. Instead of respect and meaningful dialogue, Stephen Harper has exhibited a disrespectful, divisive and disinclined attitude towards the Premiers and their governments. By lambasting specific premiers and their policies instead of discussing and reaching compromise Harper is essentially insulting the people of the provinces and their voting choices.

At the Canadian family dinner table arguments have always arisen but never have the provincial ‘kids’ been ignored and ridiculed; under Harper the rules of table etiquette have been completely rewritten. If we the electorate wish to ensure a healthy cohesive unity in Canada, we must choose a change of menu from the Harper dining room.

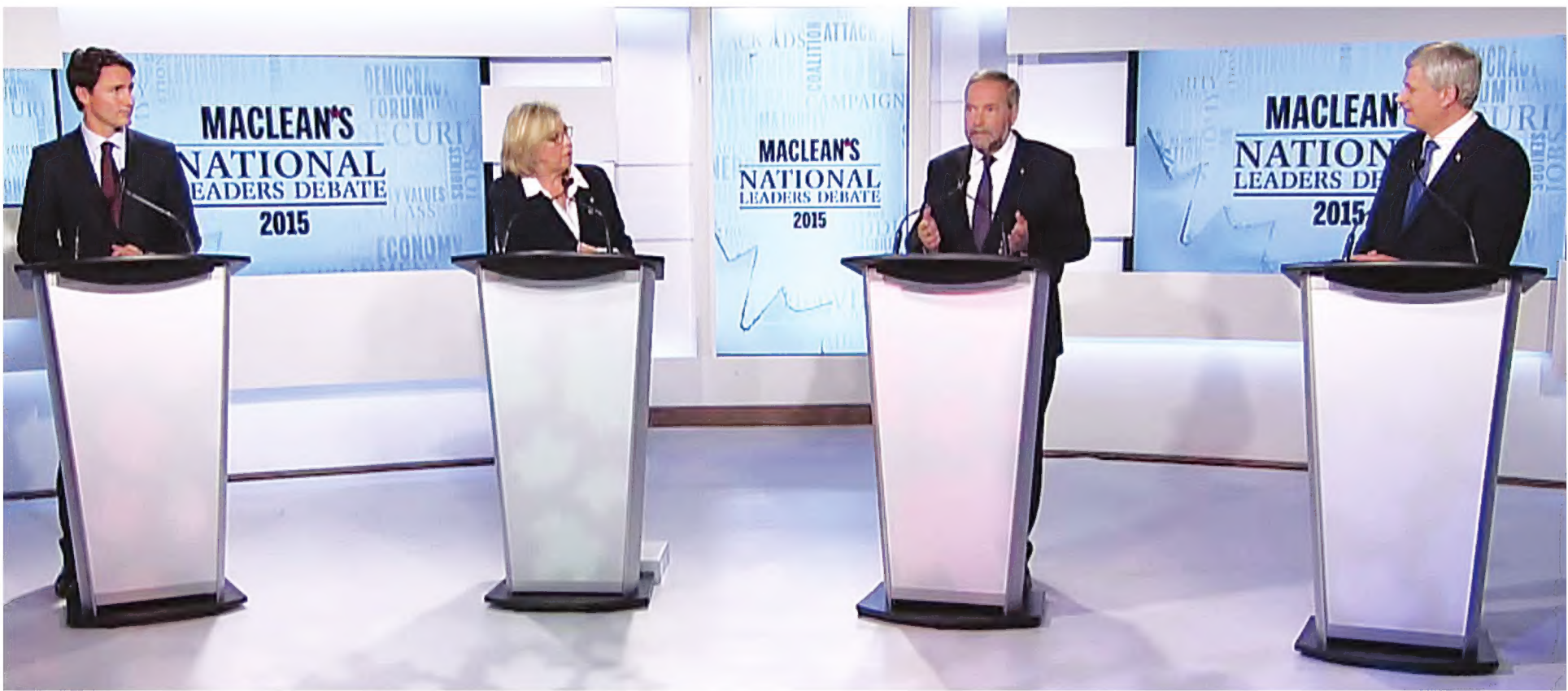


SUPPLIED - REMY STEINEGGER



SUPPLIED - ALEX GUIBORD





SUPPLIED

# Maclean’s debate offers options for left-leaning voters



**Nathan Fung**  
OPINION STAFF

It’s been almost a week since the Maclean’s national leaders debate and the general consensus among commentators is that there was no clear winner or loser. Everyone gave a strong performance and did a good job distinguishing their stances. For now, this may be fine for each of them. But as October approaches, voters who are tired of nine years of Stephen Harper will have to decide who to replace him with, and the First-Past-the-Post system is going to make that difficult.

Since their defeat back in 2011, the Liberals have been attempting to rebrand themselves from a party that seemed irrelevant in

our political landscape to a serious contender. Under Justin Trudeau’s leadership, the Liberals seem to have done a good job at reclaiming lost ground. It probably helps that expectations are quite low for Mr. Trudeau, if the jokes about how he wouldn’t have his pants on during the debate are any indication.

Voters who lean towards the right, will probably vote Conservative. But given the Liberals’ resurgence, will left-leaning voters go for them or the NDP? The debate gives us an unclear answer as both Mulcair and Trudeau had strong and weak moments. During a break from Harper-bashing, they jabbed each other. Trudeau tried to represent Mulcair as an extremist trying to pander to people who hate corporations and willing to gamble with national unity by appealing to Quebec separatists. Mulcair, who boasted of his time in provincial politics, took aim at the Liberal leader’s lack of experience and characterized Trudeau’s policies on the economy and Bill C-51 as being too similar to Harper.

**▪ [Viewers] hoping to see the aggressive Leader of the Opposition [were treated to] a Mulcair trying to be more amiable.**

While they both effectively voiced their platforms, Mulcair may have been bogged down by high expectations as some were hoping to see the aggressive Leader of the Opposition seen in Question Period. Viewers were instead treated to a Mulcair who was trying to be more amiable, which worked somewhat to his advantage. On the other hand, low expectations of Trudeau may have made him seem more successful

that he actually was.

Then we have the First-Past-the-Post system. Vote splitting would be less of a concern under a system of proportional representation where voters could vote for the party of their preference and a regional representative. Meanwhile, seats in the legislature could be arranged to more accurately represent the popular vote. FPTP instead greatly distorts seat allocation as voters can only vote for candidates running in their riding, resulting in a composition of MPs that bears little resemblance to the popular vote. FPTP is how the Conservatives can get 51.6% of the seats in the House of Commons with only 39.6% of the vote. If Trudeau is to boost the number of Liberal MPs in the House of Commons, it could be the NDP paying for it.

Now some might look at this and repeat what Elisabeth May said, that the issue is vote abandoning

as opposed to vote splitting and that voter engagement is somehow the solution. But this ignores the systematic problem of FPTP. Voter engagement is nice to have, but left-wing voters still have to pick who to vote for, and that’s not going to be easy.

With two months until the election, it’s hard to tell how the fight for the left vote will end. Could either of these parties be inadvertently helping the Conservatives win this election? Or will something else intervene? If the debate is any indication, it will be a tight contest in an already high-stakes election. And since this is an extra-long campaign, we will inevitably see this question arise again. However, if Trudeau becomes prime minister and stays true to his word that this election will be the last one to be run under the FPTP system, then vote splitting may no longer be a worry.



**Castrate the patriarchy.  
Write Gateway Opinion.**





## YEG COMICS: the struggle for recognition

Written By Kieran Chrysler with Photo by Christina Varvis

When we first meet Earl, he's freefalling from a window of a mysterious, evil-looking floating base with "SMRZ Industries" spread across the side. He phones his partner, Mr. P'chōka, mid-fall. After Earl crash lands, the two are thrown into a high-speed car chase.

This is the scene that begins *The Spectacular Shenanigans of Mr. P'chōka and Earl*, a cute comic book that was written and illustrated by local Edmonton artist, Josh Sorenson.

*The Spectacular Shenanigans of Mr. P'choka and Earl* details the namesake characters fighting in a resistance against the evil SMRZ Industry that has overtaken the world in the not-too-distant future. While being grey and dystopian in tone, the animation is cute and lighthearted, keeping readers enthralled as the scrappy freedom fighters try to retake their home. While the themes are a little heavy, Sorenson tries to keep the story fun.

"I wanted this to be something that anyone can read," he says. "There's violence but it's fun violence. People get shot but no one gets murdered."

"It's not a graphic story."

The impressive thing about his book is that Sorenson self-published it in his spare time. Coming home after an eight-hour day at work to spend another four working on his comic, it took him a year to get the first nine-issue volume of his story finished.

From font-creation, to writing, drawing and inking all the pages, Sorenson did everything completely on his own. Once his cute brain-child was complete, he had the book printed on his own dollar, giving him a tangible reward to his labours. His book is now in six stores across Alberta, and he has started the slow hunt for a publisher to produce and distribute his book for him.

"I got my first couple of rejection letters," Sorenson reveals. "That feels like progress at least, it's better than not hearing back at all."

This struggle to find a publisher is not unique to Sorenson. At year end in 2014, DC and Marvel

had approximately 60 per cent of the market share in the comic book industry. With a few larger independent publishers like Image Comics, IDW and Dark Horse Comics taking up most of the remaining share, there aren't many options to break into the industry, especially considering most comic books being produced today are existing franchises like *Batman* (DC), *The X-Men* (Marvel), and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (IDW). There are some publishers that produce "creator-owned" (original) content, but it takes up a small portion of the comic book market. With so few publishers wanting original characters, it becomes harder for smaller creators, like Sorenson, to break into the industry.

Enter Happy Harbor Comics. Located on 104 Avenue right across the street from Grant MacEwan University, it's a huge, bright, impressively laid out comic book store. Full to the brim with comic books, graphic novels, board games and collectibles, it's a haven for all things nerdy.

In one corner of the store, you will find two bookshelves packed with comic books of differing production value. Some look like they have been printed at Staples, while others have been bound and look like they should be tucked in with Happy Harbour's large graphic novel selection. If you look closely, you'll find Sorenson's first issue of *The Spectacular Shenanigans of Mr. P'choka and Earl*. This is the local creators section of the store, something that Happy Harbor owner Jay Bardyla has maintained as a staple in house since starting the store in 2005.

"[When we opened] people with existing stuff reached out to us," Bardyla says. "It was without hesitation we put stuff on the shelves and worked out a system for them."

Happy Harbor has a consignment program in place for local comic book artists who, like Sorenson, push through self-publishing a comic to get a finished product. The store will display and sell the locally-made comic books, and give the creators 80 per cent of the profits from their work. Compared to the industry average of 50 per cent, the program is financially beneficial for the creators.

From 2005-2010, the shop saw a boom in local

creators bringing in content for them to sell. But the trend has stabilized, and they now see one or two new books per month. For people like Sorenson, it's mostly used as a way to show off the fruits of their labour.

"I wanted to make the physical copy because it feels more real that way," Sorenson explains. "But it's a little exhausting. I haven't sold all the issues I've given away. It's a little frustrating because I was hoping that things would have gone a bit better by the time the second issue came out. But I'm just gonna keep going with it."

While their local showcase is not a place for local artists to get discovered by big publishers, it does help to motivate the creators to strive towards a whole, finished piece. It is easier to pitch a finished product than one in progress, Bardyla says.

The program helps artists trying to carve a name for themselves as Edmonton-based comic book artists. But Bardyla notes that just giving them a place to sell their art is not the only way they can provide assistance.

"We realized giving themselves a place to sell books is one thing, but giving them motivation and resources is another," he says.

This need for resources is what inspired their Artist-in-Residence program, where they hire an artist to sit in-house creating, and being paid to work on their own projects and talk to customers in the store about their process. The compensation is an important part of the program, since most of the artists would not be able to financially support themselves while creating full time.

As well as the Artist-in-Residence program, there is also a collective that meets bimonthly in the store, called "Open Door Comics." The collective works together, critiquing each other's work, hosting workshops and interacting with more creators to further their art.

"There are those events and programs that are more useful to keep people going," Bardyla says. "Selling five copies can be more damaging than helpful."

Every year Edmonton becomes a bigger and better arts centre in Canada. But local comic creators are still having trouble being recognized for the artists they are by the local community.

"In Edmonton, we have a lot of comic book stores," Bardyla explains. "But the art community is resistant to comics. This year was the first year in the history of the Art Walk that they had comic book creators. They didn't consider it to be original work because it's commercialized or mass produced and no, art is art."

Bardyla explains that a former Happy Harbor Artist-in-Resident Daniel Hackborn was the reason that the Art Walk finally included local comic book artists. This year, there was an artist's alley that featured six creators, encouraging them to get to know each other and interact with more like-minded people in the community.

Comics' inclusion in the Art Walk is definitely a step in the right direction, but Bardyla is still frustrated at how long it has taken for the medium to be recognized.

"I've butted heads with art and gallery people before," Bardyla says. "At one time we were billing ourselves as the biggest art gallery in downtown. Because we have ten times the art as they do. They didn't like that."

Recently, an artist collective in the city reached out to Happy Harbor to suggest a collaboration between the two.

"We've only been here since 2005," Bardyla says, regarding the gesture. "But they had an intern who likes comics and suggested a cross promotion. We've been in the downtown core for a decade and that is the first time we've ever had a connection."

It's long-overdue, but the slow acceptance of comic book creators into the Edmonton arts community bodes well for artists like Sorenson, who would find it easier to make a living off something they love doing.

"It would be really nice to put eight hours a day into something I'm really passionate about."



# Arts & Culture

**A & C Editor**  
Jon Zilinski  
**Phone**  
780.492.6661  
**Email**  
entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca  
**Twitter**  
@actuallyisjon  
**Volunteer**  
Please contact via email!

## fringe preview

COMPILED BY **Josh Greschner**

Cynics call it the city’s celebration of mediocrity, but this isn’t entirely true. There’s always something different at the Fringe festival, at every venue, and if you go to the right ones, in the same show. While the law of averages dictates that there will inevitably be a whole lot of mediocrity (the average star rating on the *Vue Weekly* website is nearly right at 2.5) there’s also surprising, astounding shows fit for every adjective in the rainbow.

### Off Book the Musical

Sugar Foot Dance Club  
8116 105 Street  
August 17 through 23, 2015  
Cost: \$15

Rapid Fire Theatre is that best improv company in the city, and the bring their A-game when they improvise entire hour length musicals. Five performers belt, croon and rap their way through absurd plot lines, pausing when they catch zinger lines. Fun times and hilarity ensue like your in kindergarten again.

### Breaking Bange

Sugar Foot Dance Club  
8116 105 Street  
August 17 through 23, 2015  
Cost: \$13

Christopher Bange is a magician clown and he’s coming to the Sugar Foot Ballroom to astound and entertain Edmonton! Along with performing a number of impressive feats, he’s honest and forthright about a dark time in his life when he resorted to the drink. A heartfelt message implores audiences to make the most of their lives, he’ll have you saying ‘Gadzooks!’ all the way to the bank as you withdraw more money to see his show over and over again.

### rooms//apart

Sugar Foot Dance Club  
8116 105 Street  
August 17 through 23, 2015  
Cost: \$13

A paranoid schizophrenic named Trigger newly arrives at a mental institution and assumes a room beside another patient named Switch who has severe anti-social behaviour. The story focuses on Trigger as his paranoia intensifies while his medication increases. Two young actors portray not only a delirious world of mental illness, but also pose fundamental questions about the nature of reality.

### Some Birds Walk For the Hell of It

DV8  
8130 Gateway Blvd NW  
August 17 through 23, 2015  
Cost: \$13

With a bunch of random film clips of Malcolm X, a coked-out Bob Dylan and Sinead O’Connor, East Vancouver poet C.R. Avery is dropping lyrical bombs in DV8 until the dive bar looks like Hiroshima. It doesn’t have that far to go. Illuminating Avery’s words and bringing plenty of simulated sex are two licentious strippers well-known on the Canadian burlesque scene. Avery’s screwball show will have you questioning your existence.

## The Colour of Life explores living on the edge

A story of three young adults and the pain they experience in order to view life’s vibrant spectrum

### THEATRE PREVIEW

#### The Colour of Life

**WHEN** August 16th-26th 2015  
**WHERE** Edmonton Fringe  
**WRITTEN BY** Thomas Mitchell Barnet  
**DIRECTED BY** Jon Lachlan Stewart  
**STARRING** Thomas Mitchell Barnet  
**HOW MUCH** \$10

**Jon Zilinski & Cam Lewis**

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Throughout three years away from home at the National Theatre School in Monreal, Thomas Barnet discovered how far is too far, something he brings to life in his Edmonton Fringe show: *The Colour of Life*.

“The Colour of Life focuses on three kids in their twenties, two of them start a fight club where they overload on drugs and beat each other up.” Explained former University of Alberta student, and writer Thomas Barnet. Although his initial explanation is blunt, many complexities lie behind these characters, which are reflected in Barnet himself.

Barnet grew up attached to acting and theatre, but as he decided to take the jump and pursue his passion as a career, he found it tough to find a balance between work and play. Beginning to take acting seriously in high school, Barnet began taking drama courses in his first year as a student at the University of Alberta.

“One was Drama 150, which was a performance based theatre course,” Barnet says. “I was such a dick in that class though, I frequently think back to things I said to that class and realize I was such an asshole and super jaded. I took it way too seriously.”

Like many first year students, Barnet struggled with the maturity needed to adjust to university life, naively challenging the wisdom of seasoned university instructors.

“I fought it a lot didn’t work very hard at the U of A, and I regret it. I wish I could have seen how well I would have done.”

While getting into acting programs at both the U of A and the National Theatre School, Barnet elected to take a chance and move to Montreal to attend the National Theatre School of Canada. Moving to the other side of the country and experiencing school on his own, gave Barnet a new sense of freedom.

“It’s so hard when you move away, I have a lot more sympathy for people,” explains Barnet. “You don’t have someone to ground you in the way that your parents do. It forced me to be a lot more responsible with my schedule, moods, eating, sleep and how I approach people, dealing with conflict and how to avoid it.”

**At the core of it these characters are really fucking anxious and don’t know how to deal with it**

THOMAS BARNET  
WRITER OF THE COLOUR OF LIFE

“While I was in Edmonton I would call people out on things, but you never know what kind of days people are having.”

With freedom comes the choice to do what most consider the most enjoyable option.

“I got into partying and it was a part of my life to do that with my friends and to push the limits in our own right,” explains Barnet. “Eventually that was really unsustain-

able. Now I get a lot more satisfaction out of my work instead of partying. It’s still so tantalizing, I’m bummed out that I mostly read a book every night, but if it happens, it happens.

“It’s not something I seek out anymore.”

Barnet’s own experiences with living on his own across the country and grappling with unavoidable maturity comes the centerpiece of *The Colour of Life*.

“At the core of it these characters are really fucking anxious and don’t know how to deal with it,” he says. “It’s about growing up and this idea that doing the coolest or most exciting thing all the time is not actually very brave. Sometimes it’s braver to chill out and diagnose it.”

In Barnet’s final year of school he faced difficulty when being introspective on stage, but as the young actor continued to grow, his attitude began to shift.

“Acting should be playful. Theatre should be fun, even when it’s sad it should be fun,” Barnet says. “You’re in a room with people doing really heavy stuff, there has to be joy behind it and it has to be given and not about a person’s pain. You can’t bring that onto stage with you.”

“A lot of people did that in National Theatre School, people would think about sad things to bring into a sad scene, that’s a terrible way to approach things. You want to be outwardly focused on stage; you need to contribute to the collective imagination.”

When the crux of the piece arrives, the boys won’t back down until they kill each other, a “fun” but cowardly decision that cannot possibly end well.

“The next fight they have, it’s not done until one of them dies, because of the moments before being so ecstatic, that’s a rush to bring someone to that point and not know if they’re going to come back.”



SUPPLIED



# fashion streeters

COMPILED & PHOTOGRAPHED BY Christina Varvis



Avery Li  
GRAD STUDIES IV

GATEWAY: Describe your outfit

LI: I'm wearing my J. Crew purple coat; it's my favourite. The weather today is pretty breezy, so I chose to wear it, [along with] black pants and boots. My scarf is from H&M, my shirt is from Hollister, and my top was a gift from my friend

GATEWAY: Who or what inspired your outfit today?

LI: There is a fashion blogger I follow, her name is Extra Petite. She is also from China and we have a similar body shape. Most of my choices are from her selection. For example, the scarf that I'm wearing today and the coat are both her recommendations.



## Vino Bitches

WINE:

Apothic Crush

Written by: Kieran Chrysler

From the winery that brought us the delightfully chocolate-y under \$15 Apothic Red comes their seasonal release, Apothic Crush. The newest installment in their moderately-priced wine list brings almost identical flavour as their standard Apothic Red, but with a weirdly thick twist. Not thicker in the higher alcohol content sense, but in the way that makes you question whether they just added cornstarch to their fermenting process.

Yes, this wine is thicker than its predecessor. Apothic Red most likely is finding itself envious of its younger brother with girthier mouthfeel. It's disconcerting how much this wine sticks to the tongue. It's like drinking weird, chocolate cough syrup. It's not inherently bad, it just throws the drinker offguard when they are forced to ask "is this what drinking a pint of blood from an alcoholic diabetic is like?"

The wine does have a sharper alcohol taste, so if you can concentrate on that effect instead of the feeling of drinking terrible melted chocolate, the glass goes down much easier. Crush pairs best with a bottle of regular Apothic Red, because if you mix them both together you get a wine of normal consistency. That, or some dense chocolate cake, because you can probably cut the wine with the cake knife anyway.

Price: \$12.99

Available at: Liquor Depot



# BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME

SUPPLIED

## BOOK REVIEW

### Between the World and Me

WRITTEN BY Ta-Nehisi Coates

Josh Greschner  
OPINION EDITOR

"In America," writes Ta-Nehisi Coates in his new book *Between the World and Me*, "it is traditional to destroy the black body—it is heritage." With rage, lyricism and pessimism, Coates documents how little in the black experience in America has changed in the past century.

Ta-Nehisi Coates is a senior editor for *The Atlantic* and has previously written a memoir about his relationship with his father. His new book details his life growing up in West Baltimore, the area in which Freddie Gray was this year illegally arrested for possessing a switchblade before dying in police custody. Life for Coates as a teenager was pervaded with violence which Coates argues was a result of a diffuse fear instilled in black people for living in a predominantly white society.

Coates calls being black "the great American injury" and he found ref-

uge in literature. During his time in the predominantly black Howard University he calls "the Mecca," Coates was able to temporarily surrender survivalism and apprehension for inhabiting a black body. Before meeting his wife and travelling to Paris, where for the first time in his life he could truly relax outside of racist America, Coates details the death of his friend Prince Jones which was caused, Coates argues, by a police overreaction. An emotional interview with Jones' mother concludes the book.

One of the book's major arguments is that both whiteness and blackness are historically constructed and thus, imaginary. Coates refers to white hegemony and normativity as "the Dream," coinciding with the abstract desire to destroy the black body, manifested largely in racial profiling. "The Dream" for Coates is very real. With emotional, physical prose, he testifies to the oppressive psychological effects of being black. Coates doesn't blame anyone in particular for the situation, nor does he make rallying cries to improve conditions: America's "athletic democracy" has become a deaf, corpulent beast and being black is something one must simply endure. Coates also withholds pretentious claims of "equality," favouring instead blunt-

ness and honesty while forbidding himself the luxury of dreaming. Such a worldview has provoked the conservative magazine *National Review* to accuse Coates of being "nihilistic." Coates rather seems realistic.

The book is written as a letter to Coates' son Samori, but it's easy to become absorbed in its extended memoir passages. The second person unexpectedly appears and after a slightly disorienting instant, the reader remembers the book is written for Coates' son. For a split second, Coates manages to trick the reader, particularly the white reader, into no longer being the witness but into being the addressee, the "you" that will one day inevitably experience the racism directed toward black America. Of course, white readers won't.

Stylistically, Coates' most memorable passages crescendo quickly and incrementally like rap or flutter before rocketing into extended metaphor. He insists on a hard, verby-heavy journalistic style, particularly when describing his youth in Baltimore.

Despite the recent attention given to race in America, Coates' Baltimore has hardly changed, and the author's attitude is justifiably bleak. The most he can seem to hope for is that the ideas in his work to become obsolete, which seems highly unlikely.





# Best places to grab some wings in Edmonton

Daniel Rodrigues  
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Summer is well in its prime, the suns out and the beer gardens have flung open their gates. There is one ritual however that cannot be missed, Wings Wednesday! During term it normally breaks the week up keeping us sane throughout the mountainous schoolwork, but in the summer, imagine it as the succulent glaze of the sweet cherry that has already topped the icing which is the summer holidays.

**5. Wild Wing:** Although a 20 minute drive away from Campus (or nearly an excruciating hour and a half by public transport) Wild Wing offers a large menu consisting of hot dogs, burgers, appetizers, salads, tacos and everything in-between, which is not to be missed. They also of course serve wings, totaling at 109 different flavours, this would be enough to keep you coming back for a while! An extensive menu labelled "Wings 101" provides good detail on all their wings; from flavours

such as mustang sally and hometown hottie to smoked chocolate and margaritaville, proves to us why this joint is definitely worth checking out.

**4. Boston Pizza:** Some may think there is no sign of Boston Pizza delivering something delicious other than pizza. Stepping foot in here, you would probably assume having pizza as their name, why go for anything else they offer; but BP wings are something worth trying. Offered in three different ways, all-meat, fried or oven roasted, BP keeps it simple even giving you the option to have them naked. If you're still not convinced, maybe Fishbowl Fridays can tempt you, a deal well worth your money, offering 3 ounces of alcohol for \$11. Only a 15 minute walk from HUB mall on Whyte Ave, BP is the place to be.

**3. The Canadian Brewhouse:** A favourite for some and no more than a 10 minute walk from Corona Station, Brewhouse is a fairly large venue with a large selection of drinks and food with offers

running daily to keep you coming back. At only \$4.99 for a pound of wings on Wednesdays, Brewhouse offers an assortment of mouth-watering dry rubs and sauces to be had. They include a fan favourite, chipotle mango as well as a variety of hot sauces and BBQ wings to hit that spot. Don't stop there though, the Brewhouse even goes past wings, on Thursdays for the same price they offer a basket of 10 Jumbo Shrimp (breaded or unbreaded) in the same wings flavour, highly recommended for seafood lovers.

**2. Hudson's:** At the end of Whyte Avenue lies Hudson's, a social hub with plenty of food and drink options. With their special of 39¢ wings on Wednesdays, it is. Not going too crazy with the number of flavours; Hudson's keeps it simple again with the traditional flavours such as salt and pepper, Hot and maple bacon rub. A couple of notables for the adventurous are maple whiskey BBQ and salted caramel; highly recommend, because who said all wings must be had hot?

**1. The Pint:** With only five locations throughout Canada and Edmonton lucky enough to host two of them, located just off Whyte ave and downtown off Jasper ave, the Pint tops the list for best wings. The Pint offers 40 way wings by sauces or dry rubs. As if they carefully crafted this specialized menu, the variety in flavours seems as vast as you could imagine, including parmesan herb, tandoori, szechwan, death wish, as well as seven different BBQ flavours, of course not forgetting a common favourite, honey chipotle. At 40¢ wings this is more than enough of a reason to check it, but in addition they also have mini dog Mondays, Taco Tuesdays and even catering for those vegetarians, 40 way rice on Thursdays. Cheap table kegs available and each new day bringing a new deal on drinks makes the Pint that little bit more special. Loaded with copious amounts of TVs it's the place to catch a game, chill out with some friends or simply enjoy their good grub. Come on by after your ball hockey game with your friends.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA'S CAMPUS MEDIA SOURCE  
**THE gateway**  
GTWY.CA

**Coming August 26**  
*to stands near you...*

**The Gateway's  
Orientation  
Guide**



# Sports

**Sports Editor**

Zach Borutski

**Email**

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca

**Phone**

780.492.6652

**Twitter**

@zachsprettycool

**Volunteer**

Please contact via email!

## Bears open camp with questions under centre

**Richard Cantangay-Liew**

NEWS EDITOR • @RICHARDCLIEW

With University of Alberta Golden Bears football transitioning into training camp, players will begin jockeying for coveted starting positions and roster spots — none bigger than the vacant one under centre.

As the program saw fifth-year starters Curtis Dell and Ryan Schwartz graduate last season, Chris Morris and his coaching staff are looking for a successor to command the Bears' young, balanced offence which passed for 292.8 yards per game and scored 28.8 points per game last season.

**“Last year, I think we figured out what we need to do to be successful. Now we know what it takes to win.”**

CHRIS MORRIS

FOOTBALL COACH, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA GOLDEN BEARS

A pair of veterans appear to have the inside track to becoming the Bears starting signal caller, as returnees Scott Pearson, who played in four games last season (9 completions on 21 attempts for 93 yards), and Ben Kopczynski will battle throughout training camp, which runs until Aug. 19, 2015.

But Morris said not to discount fresh new recruits Peter Zajdel (Henry Wisewood High School, Calgary), Brad Baker (Raymond High School, Raymond) and Reggie Schoeppe (Salisbury High School, Sherwood



**I REALLY ENJOY FOOTBALL** Even before the season begins, it's fun to watch.

ELAINE YIP

Park) from possibly starting in week 1.

“The thing about all our quarterbacks is that they're all so athletic,” Morris said of his group of young pivots. “It's going to be such a huge battle in that group to see who that starter is. The guys we have here ob-

viously have an advantage in the system, but you can't rule out the other guys because they're such tremendous athletes and accurate when throwing the ball. They have those pieces to contend for that number one spot.”

While most of the attention will

naturally focus on who emerges as the Bears starting quarterback, questions remain on the offensive line in front of them. The Bears lost starters David Beard, who was drafted by the Edmonton Eskimos in the second round of the 2015 CFL Draft, and Scott Ledieu, who joined Dell and

Schwartz in last year's senior class, this offseason. Beard and Ledieu were a force on the offensive line, which helped starting running back Ed Ilnicki rush for 655 yards on 108 carries (6.1 yards per carry) and nine touchdowns, all placing him within the top three in the conference.

He said returning starting OLs Justin Lawrence and Matt Korte and centre Logan Tkachuk will help shore up the left side following Ledieu's departure. But someone will have to step up and solidify themselves on the right side to make up for Beard's absence.

“Losing (Beard and Ledieu) was tough because they're such big leaders in the locker room ... the new group is another year older so it's nice having (Lawrence, Korte and Tkachuk) another year to mesh on the left side. But with the development we have with the young offensive line coming up, they're going to be put in a really good spot to contribute.”

Ilnicki, who is entering his third-year with the Bears, experienced his first win with the program last September, as the Bears went winless in his freshman season. Now it's all about moving forward with the rebuild, Ilnicki said. The bricks have been laid, and the Canada West Playoffs could be within Morris and his young team's grasp.

“Last year, I think we figured out what we need to do to be successful,” Morris said. “Now we know what it takes to win.”

“Mentally, we just need to get into the thought process that we deserve to win. We work harder than anybody else ... winning is why we're here.”

## St. Albert native looks to balance pro aspirations with academics

**Mitch Sorensen**

STAFF REPORTER • @SONOFAMITCHH

Jackson Wark has had a busy few months.

The right-handed pitcher was selected in the 23rd round, 899th overall by the New York Mets in May's Major League Baseball Draft, and has since been splitting his time between the Canadian National junior team, the St. Albert Cardinals, and the Edmonton Prospects.

At an imposing 6'6" and 210 lbs, the 18-year-old has a fastball which has been clocked at 90 mph, and regularly hits 80 with his slider. Just a few years ago; however, Wark didn't even know if he'd be on Team Alberta.

**“Even if I'm throwing well, there's always ways to get better.”**

JACKSON WARK  
NEW YORK METS DRAFT PICK

“I didn't make Team Alberta until the summer after Grade 10,” said Wark. “But that year after Canada Games, I was invited to the national team camp.”

Wark credits playing year-round throughout high school for much of his development, but mentions being a part of one of the best Ca-

nadian recruiting classes in recent memory for pushing him forward.

“Playing with guys like (Michael) Soroka (selected 28th overall, signed with Atlanta Braves), puts me in the position of being a good player, but having to get better to rise to that level.”

And rise he did, after being heavily scouted and offered a contract by the Mets, Wark got the news that he had been taken in the 30th round in a rather awkward situation.

“My phone kept buzzing in Physics class,” Wark said. “When I opened it, there were five or six twitter notifications and texts. When I went to check the draft board, there was my name.”

Though the big leagues may have come calling, Wark says that his intention was always to go to school. Having signed with the St. Louis University Billikens last fall, he will be commencing his degree and majoring in computing science in September. Signing to an NCAA squad was a relief for Wark, as he recalls the selection process for college ball was much more stressful.

“St. Louis hadn't even replied to my email until a week before the scouting tournament in Jupiter, Florida,” said Wark. “They saw me pitch, talked to me about college, and made an offer. I had my cam-

pus visit, and the only other question I had was ‘where do I sign?’”

Though he didn't choose the big show this time, Wark is eligible for a re-draft after his junior year at St. Louis. Though his future is bright, he understands the delicate balance of high-level athletics.

**“I didn't make Team Alberta until the summer after grade 10, but the year after the Canada Games, I was invited to the national team camp.”**

JACKSON WARK  
NEW YORK METS DRAFT PICK

“If you don't play well, you get injured, you could lose your scholarship, it's the same thing with pro ball,” said Wark. “With college, at least you get three or four years with some kind of a safety net, but then you have to go out there and hand your fate to the baseball gods.”

Despite this, Wark plans for success in the professional game.

“I want to be really good, and I'll work hard to be really good,” said Wark. “Even if I'm throwing well, there's always ways to get better.”



**GOING TO THE SHOW** Jackson Wark was drafted by the New York Mets.

SUPPLIED



# TORONTO BLUE JAYS

## Introduction

Chances are you've heard from somebody, or read about it somewhere, but for those who don't know, the Toronto Blue Jays are in the thick of a playoff race for the first time in a really, really long time. That means we're getting to the end of August and the team hasn't been mathematically eliminated from playoff contention. This is very exciting. Not only has this country not seen playoff baseball since the Jays won the World Series in 1993, we haven't even witnessed meaningful games being played this late into the year in over a decade. A few days ago, the Jays briefly held a half game lead over the Yankees for top spot in the American League East Division. That lead, held on Aug. 13, was the latest time in the year the team had the lead in the AL East since 1993. So yeah, it's been a damn long time since the Jays have given us anything to cheer about. After a legendary trade deadline that saw them acquire arguably the best short stop in baseball, Troy Tulowitzki, a former Cy Young Award winner for best pitcher in the league, David Price, and a handful of other solid role players, the Jays are the talk of the sporting world. So if you're interested in jumping on the bandwagon, here's our guide on all you need to know about this team and why this run is going to be special.

## The Playoff Drought

Like I said before, the Jays haven't given us a hell of a lot to get excited about since they won back-to-back World Series Championships in 1992 and 1993. Over the past 20 seasons, they've gone through a whole bunch of good players — like Roger Clemens, Jose Canseco, Shawn Green, Roy Halladay and Carlos Delgado — with absolutely nothing to show for it. They've also trotted out some really terrible, frustrating teams who are painful to watch — but I won't go into much detail about those ones. The best of those seasons came in 2006 when the Jays put together an 87-75 record, good for second place in the AL East. Although 2006 marked the only time since 1993 the Jays managed to finish above third place in the division, it wasn't good enough to make it to the playoffs because the Wild Card was occupied by the 95-67 Detroit Tigers. For those who don't know how the playoffs work in baseball, you need to either win your division, or have the best record of any second place team in your league. In 2013, Major League Baseball introduced a second Wild Card position so that the two Wild Card teams can take part in a one game playoff to determine who moves on to the real playoffs. So back in 2006, the Jays and their 87 wins weren't nearly enough to make the playoffs. Even if there had been two Wild Card teams back then, it still wouldn't have been good enough because the Chicago White Sox boasted a 90-72 record. So yeah, long story short, they haven't been anywhere near the playoffs for a long time.

## The Letdown Seasons

After the 2012 season, the Jays were in a weird limbo period where they had a few star players on team friendly deals that wanted to win immediately, some good, young players who looked poised to have breakout seasons and a really good group of prospects who were a few years away from making any kind of impact at the Major League level. Figuring that it was time for the playoff drought to come to an end, General Manager Alex Anthopolous unloaded nearly his entire farm system, making two blockbuster deals that immediately caught the attention of the baseball world. The first trade was with the Miami Marlins, who had decided to give up on being even kind of good just one year after their brand new, publicly funded billion dollar stadium was opened. The Jays acquired former World Series winner Mark Buehrle, ace pitcher Josh Johnson, perennial all-star Jose Reyes and \$8 million in cash for a collection of young players and top prospects. A month later, Anthopolous traded the Jays' top two prospects, Travis d'Arnaud and Noah Syndergaard, to the New York Mets for reigning NL Cy Young winner R.A. Dickey. In just over a month, the Jays had gone from being an afterthought in the American League to being World Series favourites. That didn't happen. A week into the season Jose Reyes got injured trying to steal a base and none of Buehrle, Dickey, or Johnson came anywhere close to living up to expectations. Save for an 11 game winning streak in June, 2013 was a complete disaster for the Jays, as they finished the year with a 74-88 record.

The 2014 offseason was much less eventful than the one the previous year. Coming off of a horrific season, Anthopolous pretty much stood pat, hoping the team he assembled would be able to pull it together with some better luck in 2014. As usual, the Jays got off to a pretty mediocre start in April, but thanks to a record breaking 19 home run month by Edwin Encarnacion and the emergence of young ace Marcus Stroman, the Jays put up a 21-9 record — and a nine game winning streak — in May which skyrocketed them into first place in the AL East. The Jays cooled off again in June and July, but were still in contention for the Wild Card heading out of the All Star break. A common theme this season was inconsistent pitching. As the Trade Deadline approached, team leaders like Jose Bautista publicly mentioned in the media how they hoped Anthopolous would be active in trades to improve the team. The deadline came and went and Anthopolous stood pat, weary of ponying up any more top prospects to improve his team for a playoff run. Whether it was because of the inactivity or not, the Jays went into a tailspin in August, putting up a 9-17 record in the month that put what appeared to be a promising season to rest.

## A New Hope

The 2015 season came with a brand new sense of optimism as the Jays had signed free agent catcher Russell Martin — already a Canadian baseball legend — to a five year deal. They also sent enigmatic, underachieving third baseman Brett Lawrie and a few prospects to the Oakland Athletics for former MVP candidate Josh Donaldson. The moves were meant to bring a new, winning attitude to the Jays, as Donaldson and Martin were two players known for their gritty work ethic, strong defensive play, and playoff experience. Of course, since it's the Jays, disaster struck at the beginning of Spring Training. During a fielding practice drill, Marcus Stroman — the prized young ace who had an incredible breakout season in 2014 — tore his ACL and his season was over before it began. The Jays were forced to go into the season with a ragtag starting rotation featuring rookies Daniel Norris and Aaron Sanchez, resulting in them also having to dig even deeper into their system for relief pitchers. Speaking of Spring Training injuries, Michael Saunders, who was supposed to be the starting day Left Fielder, tore his knee because he stepped on a sprinkler hidden in the grass on the field. The Jays had a rough start to the season, but managed to rebound and pull themselves into playoff contention thanks to an 11 game winning streak in June. The Jays had underachieved all season. Their record was never as good as their league leading +100 run differential suggested the team was. It was a combination of poor defence, poor relief pitching, and anything else imaginable that resulted in the Jays continually losing games and heavily underachieving. Everything changed at the Trade Deadline.

Heading into the Trade Deadline, the team had many needs to address, including generally weak starting and relief pitching and defensive upgrades for the bench. Anthopolous shocked the baseball world by trading Jose Reyes and a few top prospects to the Colorado Rockies for arguably the best shortstop in baseball, Troy Tulowitzki. After that, he sent top prospect Daniel Norris to the Detroit Tigers for ace pitcher David Price, and suddenly, the Jays looked like contenders. He also made a few low key moves, adding a solid relief pitcher in Mark Lowe from the Seattle Mariners, and Ben Revere from the Philadelphia Phillies, who had lead the National League in hits the year before. It was a tough pill to swallow. Over the past couple years, Anthopolous and his scouts had done an admirable job restocking the farm system after blowing it up in 2013. Jeff Hoffman, who was traded in the Tulowitzki deal, likely would have been the first overall pick in the 2014 draft had he not been injured. Norris had become a fan favourite because of his laid back, down to earth personality and the fact he spent the entire offseason living in a van. After that, everything seemed to click. The starting pitchers calmed down and started going deep into every single game, the relievers became un-hittable, and the lineup went from the best in the league to being better than the best in the league. The Jays went on yet another 11 game winning streak, pulling themselves right up with the Yankees for the AL East Division lead.

*By: Cameron Lewis and Zach Borutski*





# BANDWAGON GUIDE

## Meet the Batters

Much of the hype surrounding the 2015 Jays has to do with their historic (and I don't use that word flippantly) offence. As of Aug. 15, the Jays have scored 618 runs, outscoring the second highest run scoring team by 72 runs. Let us introduce you to the lineup that has led to this season long offensive onslaught.

**Catcher:** Russell Martin/Dioner Navarro. A good old Canadian boy playing perhaps the most high stress position in the game, Russell Martin, who signed a five year, 82 million dollar contract in the offseason, provides much needed grit and defensive ability behind the plate, along with excellent game calling skills. Martin has thrown out the second most base stealers in the league this year, and has also carried a sparkling 0.995 fielding percentage throughout the season. While his 0.249 batting average is a little low for his career average, his 15 home runs and 51 RBIs are more than acceptable for a premium position like catcher.

**First Base:** Chris Colabello/Justin Smoak. If you put these two players together, you'd probably get an all star first basemen, as they each bring a different set of skills to the table. Colabello, a Twins castoff who came out of nowhere in May, hitting over 0.350 for a large portion of May and June, while also rattling off a 17 game hitting streak in that time. His bat was good enough to make up for his deficiency in the field – the 33 games he started in left field were 33 more than he should've started in left field, but when you're batting over 0.300, these things tend to get overlooked. Justin Smoak represents the yin to Colabello's yang, a slick fielding first baseman who probably will never hit over .250, but can hit the ball a mile if a pitcher grooves one, also adds the versatility of being a switch hitter.

**Second base:** Devon Travis/Ryan Goins/Cliff Pennington. Devon Travis, the oft injured rookie has made quite a name for himself in his limited playing time this year – clubbing eight homers and driving in 35 runs in 62 games while providing fair defence. However, a balky shoulder has landed him on the disabled list twice so far this year, and he's currently not expected to return until September. In the meantime, Ryan Goins has been filling in admirably in his absence. While not nearly as explosive with the bat, his glove has been good enough to keep him in a consistent role until Travis returns.

**Third base:** Josh Donaldson. MVP, MVP, MVP! Sorry, that's me writing as a less than impartial Jays fan. But in all seriousness, Donaldson probably will garner some serious MVP attention in lieu of Mike Trout inevitably winning – because Mike Trout is Mike Trout. Currently, Donaldson is currently second in the MLB in RBIs with 86, fourth in homeruns with 31, and leads the majors in extra base hits with 61. All this comes without mentioning his defense, which has been a constant all year. Donaldson has quickly established himself as a leader on the Jays, both on and off the field.

**Shortstop:** Troy Tulowitzki. I never thought I'd be writing this at the beginning of the season, that's for sure. With Jose Reyes continuing his slide into mediocrity, Alex Anthopolous decided that he didn't want to watch any more throws skip in front of the first baseman, or any more routine grounders find their way into left field. On a day Jays fans will probably never forget, Anthopolous sent top pitching prospects Jeff Hoffman and Miguel Castro along with Reyes to Colorado for Tulowitzki and reliever LaTroy Hawkins. In terms of Tulowitzki, there isn't much to say, he's one of the best shortstops in baseball, and represents a huge upgrade over Reyes both offensively and defensively – and he's under team control until 2020, so Jays fans should start getting used to him.

**Left Field:** Ben Revere. Another trade deadline acquisition, Revere shores up the only hole the Jays had in their lineup. Left field was supposed to be Michael Saunders' job to lose going into the season, but a rogue sprinkler head put an end to that plan – so the Jays had operated with a platoon largely up until Revere's acquisition, with Chris Colabello, Ezequiel Carrera, and Danny Valencia all seeing time in left. Revere gives the jays a true steals threat, something else their lineup had been lacking, and is an above average defender in left as well.

**Centre Field:** Kevin Pillar. Essentially the second coming of Reed Johnson — except better defensively and not as prone to getting beamed by opposing pitchers — Pillar is one of those gritty players who you want to have on your team. While both his average and on base percentage leave something to be desired, one look at a highlight reel will make you forget that he's probably going to be a lifetime 0.250 hitter. Seriously, search up these clips on YouTube, you'll be glad you did.

**Right Field:** Jose Bautista. Pretty much the best rags to riches story in baseball history. The Jays picked up Bautista in 2009 and he figured to be a bench player who could play multiple positions, although he wouldn't provide much more than a replacement level player. A year later, he hit 54 home runs, far and away the most in the league, and became known as an elite power hitter. While he's battled shoulder issues this year, he's still put up excellent numbers, hitting 27 home runs and driving in 80 runs. He's signed to a really team friendly contract for another year, so winning it for him this year would be huge.

**Designated Hitter:** Edwin Encarnacion. Bautista's partner in crime in the middle of the Jays lineup, Edwin is the prototypical American League Designated Hitter – he hits a bunch of homers, he hits for a low average, and he drives in a ton of runs. This type of hitter wouldn't be ideal in weaker lineups, but Encarnacion gets plenty of pitches to hit considering who's batting before and after him. I'd be remiss if I didn't mention his homerun trot as well, it's easily the best in the league.

**Bench:** Cliff Pennington adds more depth at middle infield, and he's also a speedy switch hitter who can play both shortstop and second base. More versatility on the bench is always good. Dioner Navarro is a cagey veteran who knows the pitching staff, and can easily spell Russell Martin when he needs a day off. Backup outfielders are in short supply, as Chris Colabello is technically the fourth outfielder currently. This problem should be solved with the roster expansion at the beginning of September when Dalton Pompey finds his way back up to the big leagues.

## Meet the Pitchers

**Starter:** David Price. The first true ace the Jays have had since Roy Halladay was traded to the Phillies, an absolute workhorse and the jewel is Alex Anthopolous' trade deadline crown. Price has playoff experience, as he helped the Devil Rays to the World Series way back in his rookie season in 2008. He's also won a Cy Young award and has cemented himself as one of the most dominant pitchers in the game. Even though he's a free agent at year's end, if the Jays can make a run that includes playoff baseball, the price paid will be well worth it.

**Starter:** R.A. Dickey. He will forever be tied to Noah Syndergaard, the young stud starter who the Jays traded to get him before the 2013 season. Dickey has been pitching well after the all star break this year, and much like Price, if the Jays make a run in October, the talk of the potential lopsidedness of the trade will probably subside. Dickey remains the only remaining knuckleballer who starts with consistency in the majors, and given the strain (or lack thereof) on his body, it's easy to see the 40 year old pitching another three or four years in the majors. It'll be interesting to see if the Jays exercise his 12 million dollar club option in the offseason.

**Starter:** Mark Buehrle. Quite simply the model of consistency and the pitcher who defies every single piece of logic attached to the sport of baseball. He never throws any harder than 85 mph, but he still managed to confuse hitters with perfect pitch location and changing speeds. He's on pace for his best career season at the age of 36, and has pitched 200 innings in 14 consecutive seasons, and he's on pace for his 15th season this year. He's also never been on the disabled list in his career, so to call him consistent might be a bit of an understatement. A former World Series winner with the Chicago White Sox, Buehrle has been an excellent calming influence on a Jays staff that has been a question mark all season.

**Starter:** Drew Hutchison. Where to start? Maligned doesn't even begin to describe Hutchison's season this year, as his 5.26 ERA and 1.48 WHIP would attest. At the very least he's won games – his record currently sits at 11-2, but he also receives over eight runs of support a game, which has only happened to four pitchers in the modern era. If Hutchison doesn't show marked improvement over the next few weeks, his spot in the rotation come September could be in jeopardy.

**Starter:** Marco Estrada. Acquired from the Brewers this past offseason in exchange for Adam Lind, Estrada has been a pleasant surprise for the Jays this year. While bringing in a fly ball pitcher to pitch in a bandbox like Rogers Centre may not seem like the best idea, Estrada has somewhat reigned in his penchant for giving up the long ball. Initially put into the rotation when Daniel Norris was sent down to AAA, Estrada has solidified his role as a solid middle of the rotation starter.

**Relievers:** The Jays have put closing duties into the hands of a 20 year old and he hasn't disappointed. Roberto Osuna is the youngest player in the majors, but he shows poise in the 9th inning far beyond his years. So far this season, Osuna has amassed 12 saves in 13 opportunities, to go along with an excellent 2.05 ERA, he looks to be the closer of the future for the Jays. After beginning the season as a starter, Aaron Sanchez has been moved back to the setup roll that he dominated in last year. LaTroy Hawkins and Mark Lowe (both trade deadline acquisitions) solidify middle relief, and can both step into a closer or setup role if needed. Liam Hendriks, Bo Schultz, and Brett Cecil are all solid pieces as well. The less said about Aaron Loup's season, the better.





# Diversions

**Design & Production Editor**  
Adaire Beatty

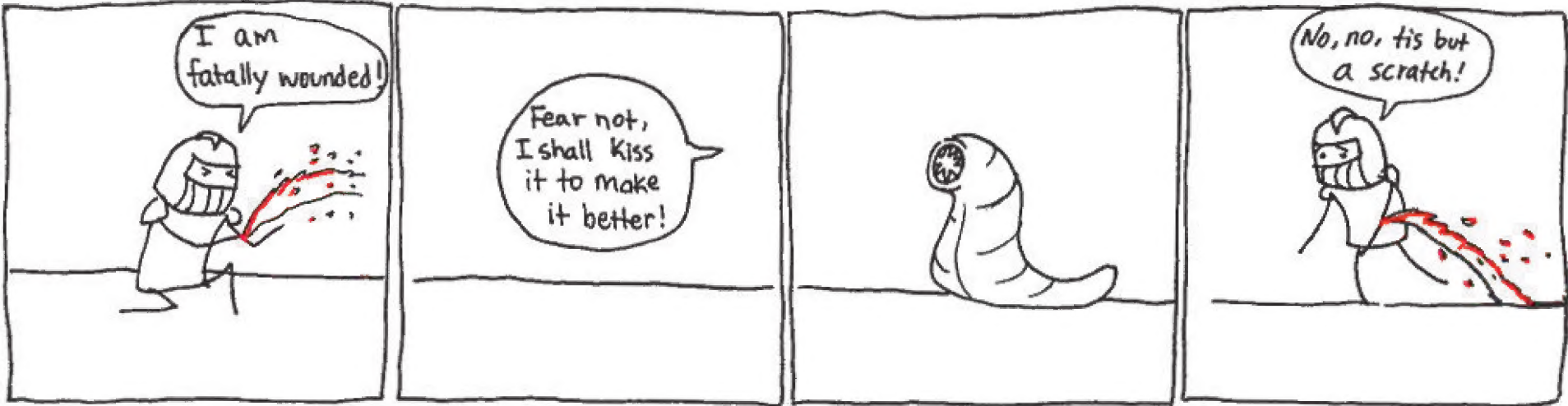
**Phone**  
780.492.6663

**Email**  
production@gateway.ualberta.ca

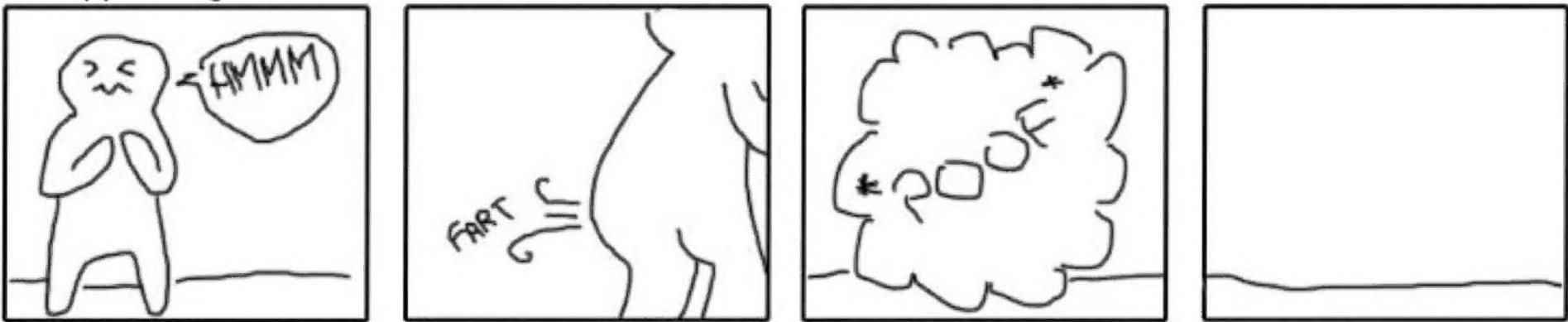
**Twitter**  
@adairejean

**Volunteer**  
Please contact via email!

MEDIOCRE AT BEST by Shelley Tian, World's Cutest Sheep



DEADLINE PT.5 by Nikhil "WHY DO I DO THIS SHIT?" SHAH



DESKTOP INK by Mackenzie From Da Ground Up



FRUIT BASKET by Adaire Beatty



PASSIVE AGGRESSIVE MAZE

